because of existence of two toll plazas on 80 km. stretch of National Highway No. 8;

(b) if so, by when such toll tax recovery would be discontinued and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the provision regarding recovery of cost in National Highway Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. However, only toll/user free (not toll tax) is being collected.

(b) and (c) User fee is to be collected in perpetuity as per the National Highways (Fees for the use of National Highways Section and Permanent Bridge-Public Funded Projects) Rules, 1997 made pursuant to the National Highways act, 1956. These Rules also provide for toll collection at a distance less than 80 km with the approval of Central Government.

Ghazipur crossing on NH-24

3933. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of heavy traffic at the Ghazipur crossing on National Highway 24; and

(b) if so, the action taken to ease the traffic in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Ghazipur crossing is located on National Highway-24,widening of which in Delhi has been taken up in phases depending upon availability of funds and *inter se* priority of works.

Objections to bridge being constructed under Sethu Samudram Canal

3934. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an eminent Jurist and former Judge of Supreme